REMARKS

Claims 1-68, 70-81 and 83-88 are pending in the application. Claims 4-13, 15, 30-40, 43, 58-68, 70-81 and 83-88 are withdrawn. Claims 1-3, 14, 41 and 42 stand rejected. Claims 44-57 are allowed. Claims 16-29 are objected to.

Claims 1-3, 14, 41 and 42 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Janovec (US 5805338).

To expedite prosecution of the application and without acquiescing to the rejection, the claims have been rewritten to place the allowable subject matter in proper form for allowance.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the rejected claims in a continuation.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that claims 16-29 and 44-57 are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

Timothy J. Meagher

Registration No. 39,30

Telephone: (978) 341-0036 Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

Date: